capacity and rehabilitation of 324 mld of existing treatment capacity in Delhi, construction of STPs of 54 mld treatment capacity and laying of sewer lines/rising mains in Agra, UP, laying of sewer lines in 6 towns in Haryana.

An amount of Rs.191.12 crore has been released so far to the State Governments for completion of 31 schemes sanctioned under this Plan out of which 4 have been completed. The progress of the implementation of the projects is reviewed jointly with the concerned State Governments.

Global Warming

896. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest update on the effect of global warming and climate changes in India;

(b) the findings of reports and recent study and the response of Government thereto;

(c) the details of international deliberations made on this issue at various fora and consensus arrived at on different aspects of prevention, as well as handling the impact; and

(d) the collaborative role to be played by Government to address the issues and steps taken by Government to mitigate the challenge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) According to the studies conducted by India Meteorological Department (IMD) and other institutions, there has been a warming of about 0.5°C during past 100 years over the country with a significant warming trend along the west coast, central India, and interior peninsula and over northeast India. A cooling trend has been observed in northwest and some parts of southern India. The all India monsoon rainfall does not show any trend but there are some regional patterns. Areas of increasing trend in monsoon rainfall are found along the west coast, north Andhra Pradesh and north-west India, and those of decreasing trend over east Madhya Pradesh and adjoining areas, north-east India and parts of Gujarat and Kerala. Analysis of past tide gauge records for the Indian coastline regions gives an estimate of sea level rise of 1.30 mm/year.

Actions taken by India to respond to the challenge of climate change include a growth strategy based on sustainable development, setting up of the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change to coordinate the national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change, release of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) by the Prime Minister on 30th June 2008 and setting up of Expert Committee on Impact of Climate Change by the Ministry of Environment & Forests in June 2007.

(c) The thirteenth Conference of Parties (COP-13) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Bali in December 2007 launched a comprehensive process called Bali Action Plan (BAP) in order to enable the full, effective and sustained

implementation of the UNFCCC through long-term cooperative action amongst all Parties to the Convention, now, upto and beyond 2012. Bali Action Plan envisages enhanced actions for providing financial resources and technologies to developing countries in order to support their actions for adaptation and mitigation of climate change. It is expected that an agreed outcome would be reached and a decision adopted regarding BAP, at the fifteenth Conference of Parties (COP-15) to be held in December 2009.

(d) India follows a path of sustainable development through a range of policies and programmes to mitigate climate change aimed at energy conservation, improved energy efficiency in various sectors; promoting use of renewable energy; power sector reforms; use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport; fuel switching to cleaner energy; afforestation and conservation of forests; promotion of clean coal technologies and encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems. National Action Plan on Climate Change will further enhance India's efforts towards adaptation and mitigation.

Air pollution in metro cities

897. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government to study the outcome of the measures undertaken to control air pollution in the metro cities, specially in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of standards/norms frxed by the World Health Organization (WHO) with regard to air quality;

(d) whether Government proposes to initiate any programme to achieve WHO standards/norms;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) by when the said norms/standards are likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As such, no specific survey has been conducted to study the outcome of the measures undertaken to control air pollution in metro cities including Hyderabad. However, ambient air quality is regularly being monitored under the National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) alongwith State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and the Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). The monitoring of ambient air quality and interpretation of data therein helps in determining broadly the outcome of various measures adopted by the Government to control air pollution. Ambient air quality data for the last 03 years for Hyderabad has revealed that air quality is within the ambient standards with respect to Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_X). However, the levels of Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) are exceeding the ambient air quality norms.